

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A virtual image album system comprising:

a card comprising a memory device and a substrate having ~~a memory device~~
~~associated therewith and~~ indicia formed thereon ~~on said substrate and being~~ which is
representative of image data accessible via said card, said memory device storing mapping
data that defines, in relation to each indicium, a bounding box delineating a mapped
position of said indicium on the substrate, ~~said memory device including~~ mapping data
being further arranged to associate ~~a location~~ said mapped position of said ~~indicia~~ indiciu
on said substrate with corresponding function data stored in said memory device and
identifying at least one function to be performed; and

a reader for said card, said reader comprising a touch sensitive membrane
arranged to overlay an inserted said card and through which said indicia are visible, said
reader being adapted to process touch coordinates in response to a user selection of said
indiciu and to output specific ~~said~~ function data associated with ~~a user~~ the selected one of
~~said indicia and the corresponding said mapping data~~ indiciu if the touch coordinates
correspond to the bounding box associated with the selected indicium, the at least one
function includes a function thereby to reference specific ~~said~~ image data.

2. (Currently Amended) A virtual image album system according to
claim 1, further comprising:

at least one image store, wherein at least one part of the image data
corresponding to the selected indiciu ~~one of said indicia~~ is stored independent of a spatial

distribution of the indicia on the card, the at least one image store being adapted to receive said specific function data, and to output said specific image data in response thereto; and

a user display adapted to receive said output specific image data from the at least one image store, and further adapted to display the specific image data.

3. (Original) A virtual image album system according to claim 1,

wherein:

said image data comprises video image data.

4. (Original) A virtual image album system according to claim 3,

wherein:

said indicia comprise thumbnail images each being representative of a corresponding video sequence.

5. (Original) A virtual image album system according to claim 1,

wherein:

said image data comprises still-image data.

6. (Original) A virtual image album system according to claim 5,

wherein:

said indicia comprise thumbnail images each representative of a corresponding still-image.

7. (Currently Amended) A virtual image album system according to claim 2, wherein:

the at least one image store is located remotely from the user, and the specific ~~said~~ image data is down-loaded to the user display over a network in accordance with said ~~user~~ selected indicium. ~~one of said indicia~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A virtual image album system according to claim 2, wherein:

the at least one image store is one of a CD-ROM and DVD disc located in proximity to the user, and the specific ~~said~~ image data is provided to the user display via a local data connection.

9. (Currently Amended) A control template for a virtual image album system, said template comprising:

an electronic card formed of a substrate and ~~having associated therewith a~~ memory device, which is readable by a card reader into which said electronic card is inserted, the card reader having a touch-sensitive membrane;

a plurality of indicia being representative of image data, said indicia being disposed on the substrate; and

function data and mapping data associated with the indicia stored within said memory device wherein:

the mapping data defines, in relation to each indicium, a bounding box

delineating a mapped position of said indicium on the substrate; and

the function data identifying at least one function to be performed including a function to reference specific image data, the function data is output if touch coordinates resulting from a user selection of indicium using the touch sensitive membrane overlying said template correspond to the bounding box associated with the selected indicium.

10. (Currently Amended) A reader device for a control template interface card, said device comprising:

a connector to connect to said interface card formed of a substrate, said substrate having disposed thereon a plurality of indicia being representative of image data the interface card having a memory device storing mapping data that defines, in relation to each indicium, a bounding box delineating a mapped position of said indicium on the substrate the mapping data being further arranged to associate said mapped position of said indicium on said substrate with corresponding function data stored in said memory device, the function data identifying at least one function to be performed including a function to reference specific image data;

a substantially transparent touch sensitive membrane arranged to overlay an inserted said interface card, and

a processor for ~~(a) reading from the inserted said interface card function data which is dependent upon mapping data associated with a selected one of the indicia; the function data and the mapping data being stored within a memory device in the inserted said interface card and~~ (b) processing touch coordinates in response to a user selection of a

said indicium, and if the touch coordinates correspond to the bounding box associated with the selected indicium outputting the function data associated with the selected indicium to an external device to reference the specific said image data.

11. (Currently Amended) A service providing device for a virtual image album system, said device comprising:

a processor for (a) storing digital images ~~that were digitized from photographic film~~ in at least one image store and (b) storing function data and mapping data to access said at least one image store into a memory device in a control card having indicia on a surface of the card, the indicia being representative of the stored images ~~and being associated with the function data and the mapping data~~, the mapping data defining, in relation to each indicium, a bounding box delineating a mapped position of said indicium on the substrate, the mapping data being further arranged to associate said mapped position of said indicium on said substrate with corresponding function data stored in said memory device, the function data identifying at least one function to be performed including a function to reference image data.

12. (Previously Presented) A service providing device according to claim 11, wherein said at least one image store is one of a CD-ROM and a DVD disc located in proximity to a user, and a specific image data that the user designated using said card is provided to a user display via a local data connection.

13. (Previously Presented) A service providing device according to claim 11, wherein said at least one image store is located remotely from a user, and a specific image data that the user designated using said card is down-loaded to a user display over a network.

14. (Previously Presented) A virtual image album system according to claim 1, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to down-load said specific image data to a user display over a network from at least one image store that is located remotely from the user.

15. (Previously Presented) A control template according to claim 9, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to down-load a specific image data to a user display over a network from an image store that is located remotely from the user.

16. (Previously Presented) A reader device according to claim 10, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to down-load a specific image data to a user display over a network from an image store that is located remotely from the user.

17. (Previously Presented) A service providing device according to claim 11, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to down-load a

specific image data to a user display over a network from an image store that is located remotely from the user.

18. (Original) A virtual image album system according to claim 1, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to read a specific image data to a user display from an image store that is located in proximity to the user.

19. (Original) A control template according to claim 9, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to read a specific image data to a user display from an image store that is located in proximity to the user.

20. (Original) A reader device according to claim 10, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to read a specific image data to a user display from an image store that is located in proximity to the user.

21. (Original) A service providing device according to claim 11, wherein said function data is a command and memory address to read a specific image data to a user display from an image store that is located in proximity to the user.